

Leadership

J. Bryan Nicol Commissioner



Commissioner J. Bryan Nicol has been with INDOT for more than 10 years, acting in several capacities.

Nicol graduated from the University of Evansville in 1987 with a degree in political science. Immediately following his graduation, Nicol served as a Governor's Fellow until 1988. Nicol then joined INDOT as the Executive Assistant to former INDOT Commissioner Christine Letts. Nicol later managed INDOT's Land Acquisition Division.

In 1993, Nicol received his Juris Doctorate from the Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis and was admitted to the Indiana Bar. Under Indiana Attorneys General Pamela Carter and Jeffrey Modisett, Nicol was appointed Deputy Attorney General.

Nicol joined INDOT again in 1997 to oversee highway operations, where he was responsible for the management of the district offices and the Operations Support Division. During 2001, Nicol left INDOT to serve as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor O'Bannon. On September 10, 2001, Nicol was appointed INDOT commissioner.

Commissioner Nicol leads approximately 4,800 employees, including eight executive staff members.

Kelly Whiteman Chief Legal Counsel



Kelly Whiteman became Chief Legal Counsel in May 2000, after defending INDOT and other state agencies as a Deputy Attorney General for five years.

Whiteman graduated from Valparaiso University Law School *summa cum laude*, and her bachelor's degree in telecommunications is from Indiana University.

In addition to being INDOT's Chief Legal Counsel and Chief Ethics Officer, Whiteman oversees the Legal, Internal Affairs and Civil Rights divisions.

Before becoming an attorney, she spent 12 years designing, implementing and managing human resources and employee benefits computer systems for several companies, including the Los Angeles Times.

Janey Trout Human Resources



Janey Trout has been the Human Resources Manager of INDOT since March 1997, and has worked within the state system for 10 years. Trout obtained her bachelor of science degree in social work from Taylor University.

She directs the Human Resources Division, which includes the sections of Employment and Compensation, Payroll and Benefits, Labor Relations, Affirmative Action/EEO and Training.

A number of programs are coordinated by the Human Resources Division, including COOP/GEDP for engineer candidates, Certified Technician Program, Tuition Reimbursement Program, the Governor's Student Assistant (GSA) Program and the Engineer Retention Program.

Rick Smutzer Chief Engineer



Rick Smutzer was appointed INDOT's Chief Engineer in March 2001. He is a registered professional engineer with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's degree in geotechnical engineering from Purdue University.

Smutzer joined INDOT's Materials and Tests Division in 1974. He served in several capacities before being named division chief in 1994.

Smutzer oversees the divisions of Design, Land Acquisition, Contracts and Construction, Materials and Tests and Research. He is responsible for establishing policies and procedures in various divisions, and oversees all project phases from design to construction.

Vaneeta Kumar

Planning and
Intermodal Transportation



Vaneeta M. Kumar was selected to serve as Deputy Commissioner for Planning and Intermodal Transportation in November 2001.

A native of Indianapolis, Kumar earned her bachelor of science degree at Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis in 1988. She completed her law degree at the Indiana University School of Law in 1992 and was admitted to the Indiana Bar in 1993.

Kumar has served as counsel for the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, as a Deputy Attorney General, as Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Indianapolis and as Administrator of the Indianapolis Department of Public Works Division of Contract Compliance.

Kumar oversees the divisions of Multi-Modal, Program Development and Environment, Planning and Engineering.

Kathy Noland

Communications and
Legislative Affairs



Kathy Noland became the Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs in July 1999. Prior to that position,

Noland was the executive assistant to INDOT's Commissioner Curtis Wiley.

Her tenure in state government encompasses working for the Legislative Branch, both in the House of Representatives and State Senate. In addition, she worked at the Indiana Department of Commerce for six years. During this time, she gained an understanding of the priority for economic development, which is often applied to her duties at INDOT.

Noland oversees the Office of Communications, which is responsible for contact with the media and correspondence across the state.

Ron Thomas

Special Projects



Ron Thomas is responsible for the development, facilitation and accomplishment of a diverse array of projects. Thomas re-

searches successful approaches to transportation industry challenges and coordinates the project participation of various transportation stakeholders, both internal and external. In addition, he prepares periodic special project status updates to the commissioner.

Prior to becoming the director of special projects in December 2000, Thomas was manager of the Railroad Section, and has been employed with the department since 1992. Thomas holds a bachelor's degree from Indiana University, is a published author and operated a business planning consulting company before joining the department.

Laurie Maudlin

Fiscal Policy and
Federal Affairs



Laurie Maudlin became Chief of Fiscal Policy and Federal Affairs in February 2001, serving as the liaison for congressional and federal

interests for the Department of Transportation. Before this, Maudlin was the Policy Manager in the Division of Policy and Budget.

Maudlin obtained her master's degree in public administration from the University of Kentucky and her bachelor's degree in political science from Hanover College. Maudlin has worked for the State of Indiana for seven years, including tenure at the Department of Environmental Management and the Department of Commerce.

Richard Whitney

Chief Financial Officer



Richard Whitney was appointed Chief Financial Officer in October 1999.

Whitney earned his

bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Tampa. He also served 10 years in the U.S. Army earning the rank of captain while doing tours of duty in Vietnam and Germany.

Whitney joined INDOT as an accounting service manager in 1979. He served as chief of the Policy and Budget Division from 1995 to 1999.

He currently oversees the divisions of Accounting and Control, Policy and Budget and Systems Technology.